CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for monitoring a networked computer service for fault recovery, comprising:

an input interface to receive network status data from a network monitor monitoring a computer services network;

a control engine, the control engine communicating with the input interface to receive the network status data and automatically generate control commands based on a fault condition in the network status data; and

an output interface, communicating with the control engine and the computer services network, the output interface communicating the control commands to the computer services network to respond to the fault condition.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the computer services network comprises an Internet service.

3. A system according to claim 2, wherein the Internet service comprises a search service.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein the network status data comprises at least one of page latency data, processor utilization data, connection data and storage data.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the fault condition comprises a failure of the network status data to meet a performance threshold.

6. A system according to claim 5, wherein the performance threshold comprises a minimum response time for a user of the networked computer services.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein the control commands comprise a command to deactivate or reduce an affected service in the networked computer services.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein the control engine reactivates or restores the affected service upon restoration of predetermined network status data.

9. A system according to claim 7, wherein the control engine alters the operation of another service in compensation for the affected service.

10. A system according to claim 1, wherein the control engine comprises a rules-based decisioning engine.

11. A system according to claim 10, wherein the rules-based decisioning engine interfaces to a control database storing at least one of the network status data and a set of service fault rules.

12. A system according to claim 1, further comprising a manual override selector, the manual override selector permitting an operator to override the control commands generated by the control engine.

13. A method for monitoring a networked computer service for fault recovery, comprising:

receiving network status data from a network monitor monitoring a computer services network;

automatically generating control commands based on a fault condition in the network status data; and

communicating the control commands to the computer services network to respond to the fault condition.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the computer services network comprises an Internet service.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the Internet service comprises a search service.

16. A method according to claim 13, wherein the network status data comprises at least one of page latency data, processor utilization data, connection data and storage data.

17. A method according to claim 13, wherein the fault condition comprises a failure of the network status data to meet a performance threshold.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the performance threshold comprises a minimum response time for a user of the networked computer services.

19. A method according to claim 13, wherein the control commands comprise a command to deactivate or reduce an affected service in the networked computer services.

20. A method according to claim 19, further comprising a step of reactivating or restoring the affected service upon restoration of predetermined network status data.

21. A method according to claim 19, further comprising a step of altering the operation of another service in compensation for the affected service.

22. A method according to claim 13, wherein the step of automatically generating comprises executing a rules-based decisioning engine.

23. A method according to claim 22, wherein the rules-based decisioning engine interfaces to a control database storing at least one of the network status data and a set of service fault rules.

24. A method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of manually overriding the automatically generated control commands.

25. A networked computer service, the networked computer service being monitored for fault management according to a method of:

receiving network status data from a network monitor monitoring a computer services network;

automatically generating control commands based on a fault condition in the network status data; and

communicating the control commands to the computer services network to respond to the fault condition.

26. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the computer services network comprises an Internet service.

27. A networked computer service according to claim 26, wherein the Internet service comprises a search service.

28. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the network status data comprises at least one of page latency data, processor utilization data, connection data and storage data.

29. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the fault condition comprises a failure of the network status data to meet a performance threshold.

30. A networked computer service according to claim 29, wherein the performance threshold comprises a minimum response time for a user of the networked computer services.

31. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the control commands comprise a command to deactivate or reduce an affected service in the networked computer services.

32. A networked computer service according to claim 31, wherein the method further comprises a step of reactivating or restoring the affected service upon restoration of predetermined network status data.

33. A networked computer service according to claim 32, wherein the method further comprises a step of altering the operation of another service in compensation for the affected service.

34. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the step of automatically generating comprises executing a rules-based decisioning engine.

35. A networked computer service according to claim 34, wherein the rules-based decisioning engine interfaces to a control database storing at least one of the network status data and a set of service fault rules.

36. A networked computer service according to claim 25, wherein the method further comprises a step of manually overriding the automatically generated control commands.